

INFORMATION LETTER

Not for
Publication

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members
Only

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FUTURES CONTRACTS ANNOUNCED

F.S.C.C. Sends Copies of Forms and Specifications to All Tomato Canners

Formal announcement of plans of the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation to purchase canned tomatoes for future delivery was made on April 29 and sent to all canners of tomatoes and tomato products. Accompanying the announcement were a contract form on which to make offers, a schedule giving purchase specifications, and a statement of specifications for canned food shipping cases.

Attached to the announcement was a special note calling attention to the fact that none of the conditions of the Walsh-Healey Act are included in the proposal to purchase.

The announcement makes no mention of the quantity that will be purchased. As announced in last week's INFORMATION LETTER, the F.S.C.C. plans the purchase of 15,000,000 cases during the 15 months ending in June, 1942. This will include the buying of spots and futures, but the bulk of the purchases will be from the 1941 pack.

Offers may be submitted so as to be received by the Purchasing Agent, F.S.C.C., Washington, D. C., on or before 10:00 A. M., E.S.T., on the first and third Tuesdays of each month until August 1, 1941, unless otherwise advised.

Offers submitted during the period stated will be subject to acceptance, in whole or in part, by telegram filed at Washington, D. C., not later than the first and third following Thursdays of each month.

Canned tomatoes purchased are to be delivered during a sixty-day period to be elected by the offerer, provided such sixty-day period begins not earlier than August 15, 1941, and ends not later than December 31, 1941. Thus each offerer is required to state in his tender the beginning and ending dates of the elected delivery period. F.S.C.C. reserves the right to reject any offers if such delivery period is for less than sixty days.

Offers will be considered for any quantity of No. 2, No. 2½, or No. 10 size cans of canned tomatoes meeting the requirements of Grades B and C as defined in "U. S. Standards for Grades of Canned Tomatoes," effective April 1, 1941. Purchases in No. 10 size cans are expected to be materially less than purchases in No. 2 and No. 2½ size cans.

It is understood that samples drawn for inspection will be furnished without cost to the F.S.C.C. Approximately 12 cans per 1000 cases of No. 2 or No. 2½ size cans, and 5 cans per 1000 cases of No. 10 size cans will be needed for inspection, provided that lots are of adequate size and uniformity.

Vendors are not to pay the Agricultural Marketing Service for the cost of such inspection, but, in lieu thereof, are to deduct from each claim for payment submitted to F.S.C.C. for canned tomatoes delivered, the cost of inspecting the canned tomatoes for which payment is claimed. Such cost of inspection is to be that cost assessed by the Agricultural

Marketing Service and evidenced by the inspection fee shown on the AMS certificate or on the fee bill accompanying the AMS certificate.

Canned tomatoes to be delivered are required to be packed in new fiber cases, for which specifications are furnished. Each case is to be marked to show the name of the vendor, name of commodity, number and size of cans, lot number, contract number, and a legend that will be furnished by the F.S.C.C. prior to shipment.

Cans are to be labeled with commercial labels complying with all Federal regulations.

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CONSUMER GOODS CONFERENCE

Maintenance of Present Levels of Quality and Prices Urged in Addresses

Maintenance of the present level of quality of consumer goods, increased production of goods for both military and civilian use, and prevention of price rises were among the main points urged in addresses given by representatives of both government and business before the Defense Conference on Consumer Goods, held at the Department of Commerce at Washington, D. C., on May 2. Among the speakers were Secretary of Commerce Jesse H. Jones; Leon Henderson, Administrator, Office of Price Administration and Civilian Supply; Miss Harriet Elliott, Assistant Administrator in Charge of the Consumer Division of this same Office; Fred Lazarus, Jr., Chairman of the Retailers' Advisory Committee; and William M. D'Miller, Chairman of the National Food and Grocery Conference Committee.

Mr. D'Miller in his address sounded the keynote of the conference when he stated that:

"The food industry is prepared, in 1941, to meet the challenge of national defense on a scale never before possible in the history of our nation. We believe that the action of the food industry since the beginning of the second world war is ample proof of this. We are convinced that we have a right to be proud of the cooperation the food industry has given the government in this new national crisis, and are confident that no problem that may arise as a result of the greater part the United States are taking in the world struggle, will be too big for the joint effort of government and industry working together in channels already established, if both sides approach the problem in good faith."

Miss Elliott in her address, in referring to prices of consumer goods, called attention to the importance of the quality of the products the consumer receives for the price she pays, and warned the trade that the effect of higher prices may be felt by the consumer through reduction in the quality of goods selling at the same price as well as through increased prices for the same quality of goods she formerly bought.

She also called attention to the fact that purchasing for our defense program has, of necessity, created temporary shortages:

"We must not, of course, accept the necessity of shortages until every effort to provide a sufficient supply has been made. Our united effort must center on production, not alone of military supplies, but of the goods which go to make up civilian living standards. But while we are striving for production, we must face squarely both the temporary shortages which may arise while production is being stepped up and the more permanent shortages arising where the limit of a particular resource is reached.

"How can we prevent these shortages from penalizing most heavily those groups in our society least able to bear the burden?

"How can we make certain that in our need to conserve our resources all avoidable waste is eliminated?

"We all know that when prices are too high, people with limited incomes bear an unfair part of the burden. That's part of what we mean when we say a price is too high. And, all of us agree that in human and democratic terms the social cost of prices that would fall heavily on our low income groups is too grave in its consequences for us to allow it to happen."

Miss Elliott closed with five suggestions for sound pricing policies for manufacturers and distributors to follow during the emergency. The suggestions given by Miss Elliott are as follows:

1. That anticipated cost increases which have not yet materialized should not be made the basis for price advances;
2. That when prices of new goods advance, inventories should be averaged rather than marked up to the new level;
3. That rigid adherence to the practice of traditional rates of mark-up should be discouraged unless it can be shown that costs have advanced by an equivalent amount;
4. That the practice of selling merchandise at the "price prevailing" at the time of shipment rather than by selling at a specific quoted price at the time of sale should be avoided;
5. That price increases be not concealed in quality deterioration but that quality changes be clearly indicated to the consumer buyer.

In opening his address, Mr. Henderson said:

"You should be interested in maintenance of price stability as businessmen for nothing can be more destructive to sound operation of business enterprises than rapidly rising prices with their dislocating effects on the upside and their ruinous losses which they inevitably cause when the collapse comes."

Mr. Henderson further pointed to the fact

"that supply is the fundamental regulator of price and that when demand expands the way to hold prices in line is to increase supply. Increasing of supply is my fundamental line of attack on this problem of price administration. That goes for the raw materials to make armaments as well as for civilian goods. In my opinion, there hasn't been enough attention paid to expanding productive capacity. We haven't looked ahead far enough, in a word we haven't set our sights high enough. Or, where we have looked ahead we have always anticipated the best that could happen and not the worst. In my job I propose to expect the worst.

"In the field of civilian goods demand will be rising rapidly in months ahead. We will soon be spending upwards of a billion dollars a month in producing armaments—a type of goods which can't be eaten, worn or lived in. In other words, these billions will be paid out for goods which do not come on the markets where civilian goods are sold. But the billions will remain just the same in large measure to buy the civilian

goods which non-defense workers are turning out. Our output of civilian goods has already mounted more than 20 per cent during the past year. I believe production of such goods can rise much higher than this and I, for one, would like to see just how high it can go under the stimulus of rising consumer buying power after all possible armament needs in the way of raw materials, plant capacity, and labor supply are taken care of."

Mr. Henderson said that

"In limiting price increases in steel and other basic industrial raw materials, we have done much to stabilize not only the cost of armaments but the cost of civilian goods of all kinds, including the goods you sell in your stores. . . . The point I wish to impress upon you in this connection is that while the potential price increases in these commodities have been due to armament demands, the measures taken to maintain stable prices have had just as much beneficial effect on the price of civilian goods as on armaments. In all cases, it is just as important to maintain stability in the prices of civilian supplies as it is in the prices of war materials.

"Thus far we have not found it necessary to issue schedules governing retail prices of consumers goods. We have limited such schedules to wholesale prices. But we can step into the consumer goods field if necessary and we are not afraid of the task. It would entail difficult problems of administration, I quite realize, but it can be done any time it is more important to regulate retail prices than to suffer the consequences.

"I don't think that will be necessary because I am counting on your doing the right thing. I don't expect you people to step up your margins, to charge premiums for advance deliveries, to anticipate cost increases which have not occurred in making price advances. I do expect you to average out inventories should prices of new goods advance rather than mark up existing stocks to the new level. I do not expect you to fix mark-ups on a percentage of cost unless costs have definitely increased by an equivalent amount, and I do not expect you to complete or to accept sales at prices prevailing upon delivery instead of at fixed prices. All these practices create pressure for rising prices. They advance the cost of living without justification, feed the demand for wage increase and force prices up further. Once that particular cat begins chasing its tail around the circle the only way to stop him is to cut his tail off. A price schedule for retail sales provides an admirable knife for such an operation although I do not want to be the surgeon unless I am forced to be.

"No man can tell how long this emergency is going to last but the chances are it will not be over a week from next Tuesday nor for many Tuesdays thereafter. Furthermore, we are a nation of 130,000,000 people and we are still growing. That many people can eat a lot of food, wear a lot of clothes, live in a lot of houses, use a lot of furniture. We are beginning to learn a little something about just how much goods our people can and will buy when they have the wherewithal. I personally doubt whether after this emergency is over they will be content to do without this wherewithal. In other words, I believe that the expansion in capacity to produce consumers goods justified by the increased purchasing power in workers pockets flowing from the defense program will continue to be justified after the emergency is over."

In opening the conference, Secretary Jones assured the delegates that the Department of Commerce would do everything in its power to cooperate with business. He said,

"We represent business at the President's Cabinet table. The only excuse we have for existing is to be of service to business."

The four main objectives of this conference, as stated by Mr. Lazarus were:

1. The relationship of defense needs to total capacity.
2. The supply and availability of raw materials.
3. The possible impact of the lend-lease bill on consumer goods.
4. The possible effect on consumer goods of full employment.

Mr. Lazarus paid tribute to the government's efficient organization of the purchase of the many items necessary to the defense program. He said:

"Our defense buyers had to go out and get goods and get them fast. In less than a year they have accumulated the goods needed for an army of 1,400,000 men. This, as the cost of living figures indicate, has been done with a minimum of inconvenience to the civilian consumer.

"These buyers, experts like Don Nelson and Douglas MacKeachie, had only one factor in their favor at the start. By long experience in a buyer's market they knew that more marginal capacity existed than ever before in our history."

The role that American food distributors pledged themselves as early as 1939 to play in the defense program, was outlined by Mr. D'Miller:

"To lower distribution costs. The agricultural economists of the United States Department of Agriculture, in March, 1941, announced that their studies prove to them that distribution margins have been reduced 6 per cent since 1937. They attribute this entirely to reduced marketing costs on the part of distributors.

"To maintain normal margins, or less. The financial statements and operating statements of distributors of food prove that they have kept their pledge here, too. For net profits in the retail food industry as a whole, which some six years ago were around 2 per cent of volume, have been constantly cut so that today the overall net profit does not exceed one per cent of volume. And you can't cut much below that.

"To cooperate with farmers and government to remove surpluses. In this connection, the activities of the food industry with the stamp plan, even if no other effort had been made, would be enough to prove our claims to cooperation, and united effort.

"To cooperate with government to keep food prices down. Many people today shy at the word 'prices' and see nightmares when the word is mentioned. Frankly, we in the retail distribution field have absolutely nothing to be ashamed of. For food prices have increased, in the past year, 10 per cent at wholesale, but less than 3 per cent at retail."

Mr. D'Miller urged a program of public information on current developments in the food supply situation.

At round table conference held on 20 specific commodities following the morning addresses, detailed basic information on textiles, clothing, shoes, and food, prepared by the Department of Commerce, was used as a basis for discussion. This information was held as confidential and cannot be released for publication.

The groups represented at the Food Round Table, at which Milo Perkins, Administrator of the Surplus Marketing Administration acted as chairman, included meats, dry groceries, fresh fruits and vegetables, canned foods, and dairy products.

Henderson's Position on Farm Prices

A statement of the position of the Office of Price Administration and Civilian Supply on farm prices was issued Thursday by Leon Henderson, Administrator. The statement was in the form of a letter to Representative Clarence Cannon of Missouri. The major portions of the letter follow:

"During the past year domestic demand for meat, dairy and poultry products has been increasing rapidly. Very recently the British Government has asked for substantial supplies of these same products. On anything so vital as our food supply we can afford no gamble with an underestimate of our needs. Any weakness in our domestic defense or any default in our aid to other countries resulting from an inadequate food supply would be inexcusable.

"For these reasons I joined with the Secretary of Agriculture in steps to increase immediately the price of hogs to make increased production remunerative. For the same reasons, I concurred in the proposal to give farmers a long-term guarantee of prices of pork products, dairy products and poultry products. The purpose of these steps was to insure that the increased production would not be marketed at distress prices—in other words, the Government rather than the individual farmer is underwriting the risk of the expansion of output. Our policy here parallels that which has been followed by the Government in minimizing the risk of industrial plant expansion for defense purposes.

"This is not a price-fixing measure. No representations were made to this office by the War Department, individual Army officers, or by employers. The guaranteed prices are minimum prices and no maximum prices have been agreed upon. Should there be a speculative advance in these or any other prices which unreasonably anticipates heavy domestic or British buying, then action will be taken. We will take it with the speculator rather than the farmer in mind.

"With this clarification, I am sure that you will understand that we did not single out farm producers for discriminatory treatment. To date we have taken no steps to establish ceiling prices on farm commodities. On the other hand, we have acted to forestall increases in farm costs. . . .

"The President has charged me with the responsibility of using all lawful measures to maintain equitable and workable price relationships during the defense emergency and with preventing the type of price inflation which occurred during the last war. If we are to be successful, we can play no favorites—the policy must be applied across the whole board. Unjustifiable price increases and profiteering must be checked wherever they occur. But I will recognize what the Congress and the present administration have always recognized and have written into law—namely, that the prices of many farm products in past years have been too low to provide the farmer with a decent living wage for his labor. I have been a strong supporter of the objectives of the farm programs and I will continue to be. The same policy will be followed with respect to desirable and necessary improvements in farm income that we must apply to the correction of sub-standard returns to other groups.

"Generally speaking, the policy I propose to pursue will be directed toward the largest possible measure of stability for both agricultural and nonagricultural prices. I believe such a policy to be of prime importance to agriculture itself. It has always been my feeling that the long years of farm disparity following the last war were partly the result of inflationary advances in farm prices and farm costs during the war period. The farmers' prices fell after the war was over, while his costs, his debt load and his interest charges remained high and inflexible. He was left in the vice. To avoid a recurrence of this disaster is one of my jobs."

FUTURES CONTRACTS ANNOUNCED

(Continued from page 6531)

If the vendor and the F.S.C.C. enter into a contract for the storage of canned tomatoes remaining undelivered at the expiration of the agreed delivery period, such contract is to be subject to the following terms and conditions and is to be subject to the storage rates named in the vendor's offer:

1. To receive canned tomatoes and keep them safely in accordance with good commercial practice.

2. To issue receipts, on form prescribed, for canned tomatoes stored, to maintain the identity thereof while in storage, to load and deliver to F.S.C.C., f.o.b. cars or trucks, at the direction of F.S.C.C., the canned tomatoes stored.

3. The contractor shall not be charged for his failure to return the whole or any part of the canned tomatoes to F.S.C.C. when said failure is occasioned by loss or damage resulting from acts of God or of the public enemy, acts of the United States Government, sabotage, riots, civil commotion or fires, floods, tornadoes, windstorms, or sprinkler damage, occurring without the fault or negligence of the contractor.

4. To furnish acceptance surety bond payable to F.S.C.C. conditioned on the faithful performance of each and all of the provisions hereof. Said surety bond shall be in such amount as may be prescribed by F.S.C.C. but shall in no event exceed an amount equal to 20 per cent of the cost, f.o.b. storage, of the maximum quantity of canned tomatoes in storage at any one time during the total period of storage. Bond shall be furnished within ten days after receipt of notice to furnish bond.

5. To allow authorized representatives of F.S.C.C. to make inspection, at any time, of the canned tomatoes stored.

An acceptable surety bond, cashier's check or certified check payable to F.S.C.C. conditioned on the vendor's faithful performance of each and all of the provisions of the purchase contract, is to be furnished the F.S.C.C. by the vendor within ten days after the date of acceptance of his offer. Such bond or check is to be in an amount of 10 per cent of the award or \$1,000.00, whichever is greater.

If, pursuant to request by the vendor, the Secretary of Agriculture or his duly authorized agent determines that the vendor's inability, or failure to make delivery of all or any part of the canned tomatoes covered by the purchase contract, resulted from crop failure in whole or in part, quarantine restrictions, fires, floods, strikes, acts of the public enemy, sabotage, or acts of God, or other causes beyond the vendor's control, the time for delivery may be extended by the F.S.C.C. or the vendor's obligation to deliver the quantities of canned tomatoes covered by such determination may be cancelled by the F.S.C.C. and such determination by the Secretary or his duly authorized agent is to be final and conclusive.

Payment for canned tomatoes delivered to F.S.C.C. will be made as soon as practicable after a correct claim on form approved by F.S.C.C. is submitted for each shipment. If claim is properly prepared, payment may be expected by the canner within twenty days after receipt of such claim. F.S.C.C. will not require discount for "swell" allowances.

Since delivery of canned tomatoes to storage under a storage contract will constitute delivery under the purchase contract, claim for payment may be submitted immediately after such canned tomatoes are properly in store.

Instructions for preparing claims and approved specimen forms will be transmitted to successful bidders at time of acceptance.

Vendors will not be entitled to drawback for any tin plate used on cans of tomatoes exported by the F.S.C.C.

The statement of specifications for canned food shipping cases is as follows:

Flap construction—boxes to be made so that all cans will rest on end flaps by at least $\frac{1}{2}$ of can diameter.

Boxes to be sealed by gluing flaps throughout entire area of contact, preferably with an adhesive insoluble in water or by stitching flaps, or by a combination of these methods.

The board from which the boxes are made must comply with the following minimum specifications:

Under normal atmospheric conditions:

Caliper—0.100"

Mullen— 400

After immersion in water not over 80 degrees F. of 10"x6" pieces cut from body of finished boxes, having not to exceed 9 per cent moisture content, for 2½ hours:

Mullen—200 (tests to be made 2" in from edge)

Weight—Not to exceed 150 per cent of weight under normal conditions.

After immersion in water not over 80 degrees F. of 10"x6" pieces cut from body of finished boxes, having not to exceed 9 per cent moisture content, for 1 hour:

Separation of plies—not to exceed 2" in from edge—at least 4 out of 6 specimens to meet the test.

Note: If F.S.C.C. exercises its option under terms of the contract to have boxes strapped such boxes must be strapped with two metal bands running lengthwise around box, each band to be placed over the center of a row of cans. Such bands shall be made of cold rolled steel of not less than $\frac{3}{8}$ by 0.015 inch, shall be drawn tight mechanically so as to compress the box and shall be joined at the ends with a seal having at least 70 per cent of the tensile strength of the band itself.

Army Will Not Readvertise for Tomato Bids

The Army will not readvertise for bids on extra standard canned tomatoes to meet its requirements for the first quarter of the fiscal year beginning July 1, according to a press statement issued by Donald M. Nelson, Director of Purchases, Office of Production Management.

In making this announcement, the Director of Purchases expressed dissatisfaction with the response to the Army's invitation to bid on 250,000 cases, which was issued April 12, and bids on which were opened April 22. In some instances, Mr. Nelson said, offerings were in line with the market, and in these cases awards will be made; in other cases bids were so far out of line with current prices that no awards will be made. Relatively few cannery made direct bids, which was a disappointment to the Army because of its efforts to encourage direct bidding by centralizing purchases and making changes in buying methods.

Army requirements over and above the offerings that were accepted will be met, it is understood, by negotiated purchases.

TOMATO BACKGROUND STATISTICS

Agriculture Department Compiles Figures on Yield, Acreage, Production, Price to Grower

Background statistics for the tomato-production program have been compiled and released by the U. S. Department of Agriculture from records extending over the past ten years. The 1941 estimates take into account the canned tomato requirements for domestic consumption (civilian, Army, Navy, etc.) and 15,000,000 cases for purchase under the Lend-Lease Act, as well as a small increase in the production of tomato products.

The following table presents these statistics:

Marketing season beginning Aug. 1	Planted Acres	Harvested Acres	Average yield per acre Tons	Production Tons	Average price per ton to grower Dollars
1932		280,510	4.28	1,199,300	10.08
1933	296,250	280,150	3.86	1,081,300	11.30
1934	335,620	308,660	3.87	1,425,700	12.03
1935	510,150	471,730	3.60	1,700,200	11.73
1936	477,100	419,070	4.74	1,987,500	12.59
1937	473,200	451,000	4.27	1,926,300	13.11
1938	410,160	392,350	4.44	1,742,600	12.41
1939	371,730	358,260	5.58	1,990,000	12.14
1940	416,240	404,800	5.58	2,258,300	11.75
1941*	580,000	546,000	4.85	2,650,000	14.50 to 14.75

* Estimated by the Department of Agriculture.

The total of 580,000 acres of tomatoes needed this year represents about a 40 per cent increase over the acreage planted in 1940. With a normal abandonment of 6 per cent, this would leave 546,000 acres for harvest. Average yields (1936-40) on this acreage would give a total production of 2,650,000 tons, of which the estimated pack this year of 44,000,000 cases would require 1,315,000 tons. This would leave 1,335,000 tons for tomato products such as tomato juice, paste, pulp, puree, sauce, ketchup, and soups.

The contemplated \$2.75 to \$3.00 per ton increase in returns to growers would give a United States average price per ton to the grower of \$14.50 to \$14.75, the highest price since 1930. This does not mean, of course, that every grower will get this price, which is an estimated national average. In specific areas prices probably will range from \$2 to \$3 below this average to an equal amount above.

Labeling Committee Bulletin Distributed

A bulletin, containing suggestions for the design of descriptive labels for canned foods, prepared by the Labeling Committee of the National Canners Association, was distributed widely throughout the canning and allied industries early this week. The bulletin is a summary of the principles of descriptive labeling as applied to canned food.

It has been mailed by the Association to all canners, to secretaries of State canners associations, and to canners' and distributors' trade papers. Copies in bulk were sent to four distributors' trade associations for direct mailing by them to their members. These associations are: the National American Wholesale Grocers Association, the United States Wholesale Grocers Association, the National Food Brokers Association, and the Label Manufacturers National Association.

Freight Car Facilitation Urged

The National Defense Advisory Commission of the Office for Emergency Management this week urged more efficient use of freight car capacity, and set forth a policy of facilitating this use. The policy adopted by the Commission is as follows:

To make the most efficient use of car capacity, all shippers and receivers of freight should keep daily check of their operations to see that the following plan is carried out insofar as it is possible under the existing conditions:

1. Give advance notice of requirements but do not order cars placed for loading until commodities are ready to load.
2. Unload cars promptly on arrival and notify railroad when empty car is available.
3. Load cars to maximum journal carrying capacity or full visible capacity, whichever governs.

4. Remove all dunnage, blocking and rubbish from cars after unloading to permit immediate reuse and eliminate necessity of delay to cars for reconditioning.

5. In industries where 5-day work week is in effect some plan should have worked out to provide at least 6-day basis for loading and unloading cars.

Shippers and receivers of freight can make a large contribution to our defense effort by carrying out the suggestions above given and we urge prompt and effective compliance therewith.

S. M. A. Announces Food Purchases During Week

The Surplus Marketing Administration announced the purchase of the following commodities of interest to canners during the past week: canned pilchards, 32,939 cases (48 No. 1); evaporated milk, 138,000 cases; grapefruit, 775 tons; apples, 211,927 bushels; carrots, 113 tons; oranges, 17,523 boxes.

The Administration also announced the purchase of the following varieties and quantities of dry beans in the indicated States:

Variety	Quantity Bags	States
Great Northern	7,620	Idaho
Great Northern	260	Montana
Great Northern	1,260	Wyoming
Pintos	70	New Mexico
Pintos	990	California
Pinks	2,460	California
Blackeyes	2,210	California
Pea beans	1,750	Michigan
Total	16,620	

Interior Appropriation Bill Reported

The House Committee on Appropriations reported this week the annual appropriation bill for the Department of the Interior. The bill recommends total appropriations of \$177,019,078, which is an increase of \$21,469,245 over the amount made available for the Department for the current fiscal year. No increase over the 1941 appropriations for the Alaska fisheries is contained in the bill.

Michigan Food Bill Introduced

A bill providing for a uniform food, drug, and cosmetic act was introduced in the Michigan legislature on April 29. The bill (Senate 382) proposes that the enforcement of the measure be lodged in the State Board of Pharmacy.

QUARTERLY STOCKS REPORT

Census Bureau Issues Figures on Supplies of Selected Canned Foods on April 1

Stocks of salmon, peas, and corn in the hands of both canners and distributors were smaller on April 1, 1941, than a year earlier, according to the quarterly canned food stocks report prepared by the Bureau of the Census in cooperation with the National Canners Association and the Association of Pacific Fisheries.

While canners' stocks of green and wax beans and of peaches were distinctly lower than last year, this decrease was somewhat offset by a small rise in distributors' holdings of these items.

The following table summarizes the data on canners' and distributors' stocks on April 1, 1941, by showing the trends in stocks of selected canned foods when compared with stocks on certain other dates:

Commodity	Canners' stocks		Distributors' stocks	
	Change		Change	
	Apr. 1, 1941 from Apr. 1, 1940	Per cent	Apr. 1, 1941, from— Jan. 1, 1941	Per cent
Vegetables:				
Peas.....	-16	-12	-	*
Corn.....	-53	-10	-	-6
Tomatoes.....	+19	-10	+8	+8
Beans.....	-54	-17	+5	+5
Fruits:				
Peaches.....	-47	-4	+13	+13
Pears.....	+135	+27	+15	+15
Salmon:				
Alaska Reds.....	-73	+3	-4	-4
Pinks.....	-90	-6	-22	-22
Other.....	-28	+18	+5	+5
	-9	-1	+13	+13

* Less than 0.5 per cent.

Salmon, Tuna, and Sardines.—In terms of number of cases, all sizes combined, canners' stocks of salmon were down much more sharply (73 per cent) than were distributors' (4 per cent). This reflects a definite continuation of the marked decreases reported in the January report. The number of cases of Alaska reds showed the greatest decline from a year ago, canners' stocks falling 96 per cent and distributors' stocks 22 per cent. Stocks of pinks in the hands of canners were reported reduced by 28 per cent, while distributors' stocks of this item were up 5 per cent. "Other" salmon stocks also fell only in the hands of canners. As shown in the following table distributors' stocks of sardines were 32 per cent lower than last year. Stocks of tuna were up 12 per cent.

The following table shows statistics of representative distributors' stocks of canned salmon, tuna, and sardines. Compiled by the Bureau of Census, the figures are based upon reports from the same firms for each date:

Commodity	Apr. 1, 1941		Jan. 1, 1941		Apr. 1, 1940		Change	
	Cases		Cases		Cases		Apr. 1, 1941, from— Jan. 1, 1941	
							Per cent	Per cent
Salmon, total...	303,315	373,172	409,015				+5	-4
Reds.....	117,384	125,408	151,430				-6	-22
Pinks.....	103,742	164,869	184,735				+18	+5
Other.....	82,189	82,895	72,850				-1	+13
Tuna.....	106,703	153,495	175,963				+28	+12
Sardines, total...	145,322	162,824	215,219				-11	-32
California.....	104,626	86,972	118,406				+16	-8
Maine.....	22,153	53,467	59,323				-50	-63
Imported.....	18,743	19,385	42,490				-3	-56

Representative data of canners' inventories of stocks of unsold salmon, compiled by the Association of Pacific Fisheries, are shown in the following table. The figures represent the combined reports of companies accounting for 98 per cent or more of the total pack:

Variety	Mar. 31, 1941	Dec. 31, 1940	Mar. 31, 1940	Dec. 31, 1939
	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases
Alaska Reds.....	45,346	225,552	984,688	1,365,076
Pinks.....	111,201	373,209	154,677	443,687
Other.....	208,660	361,034	230,170	329,288
Total.....	365,207	959,895	1,369,535	2,140,051

Vegetables.—Stocks of canned tomatoes, according to distributors cooperating in this survey, were 8 per cent greater than on April 1, 1940. This increase continues the rise reported at January 1, 1941. During the first half of 1940, their stocks had been in general, higher than in 1939. Canners showed an increase of 19 per cent in sold and unsold cases since April 1, 1940.

For all the vegetables on which reports are available, the stocks of canners showed greater variation than those of distributors. The largest increase, 19 per cent, was in holdings of cases of tomatoes by canners, as noted above. Decreases of 53 and 54 per cent were reported in canners' holdings of corn and beans. Stocks of peas were down 16 per cent, and all three of these items had shown substantial declines at April 1, 1940, over the same date of 1939. The trend toward decreased stocks, noted last quarter, is thus continued this period.

The following table shows sold and unsold stocks of certain vegetables on selected dates:

Commodity	Apr. 1, 1941	Jan. 1, 1941	Apr. 1, 1940
	Cases	Cases	Cases
DISTRIBUTORS:			
Peas.....	1,062,417	1,210,636	1,067,090
Corn.....	1,141,395	1,208,642	1,219,706
Tomatoes.....	1,049,958	1,164,436	969,076
Green and wax beans.....	541,896	652,481	514,435
CANNERS:			
Peas.....	4,421,657	11,206,224	5,261,454
Corn.....	3,780,790	9,805,513	8,031,676
Tomatoes.....	8,040,196	13,271,070	6,770,253
Green and wax beans.....	1,085,563	3,809,198	2,352,447

Peas and Peaches.—Both distributors' and canners' stocks of canned peas were higher on April 1, 1941 than a year earlier. Canners' stocks of peaches were again in smaller volume than at the same date one year earlier. The decrease in cases of peaches held by canners conforms to the trend shown over the last two years, while the increase in peas is in line with the increases indicated at October 1, 1940, and January 1, 1941. Distributors' stocks of both peaches and peas were up, 13 and 15 per cent, respectively.

Stocks of peas and peaches in the hands of representative distributors and canners on January and April 1, 1941, and on April 1, 1940, together with percentage changes, are shown in the following table compiled by the Bureau of the Census:

Commodity	Apr. 1, 1941		Jan. 1, 1941		Apr. 1, 1940		Change	
	Cases		Cases		Cases		Apr. 1, 1941, from— Jan. 1, 1941	
							Per cent	Per cent
DISTRIBUTORS:								
Peaches.....	755,545	785,060	668,018				+13	+13
Peas.....	315,766	249,534	275,374				+27	+15
CANNERS:								
Peaches.....	1,574,730	3,714,020	2,973,310				-58	-47
Peas.....	1,338,377	2,106,697	569,261				-38	+13

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF CANNED FOODS

Exports of both condensed and evaporated milk were each approximately 12,000,000 pounds larger during the first three months of 1941 than during the comparable period of 1940. Exports of salmon were also greater in quantity, and exports of all canned juices except pineapple juice showed increases. Condensed and evaporated milk were the only

canned food items that showed large increases in quantities exported during March, 1941, over March, 1940. The following table, compiled from figures of the Department of Commerce, gives details of exports and imports for comparable periods:

EXPORTS	March, 1940		March, 1941		Jan.-March, 1940		Jan.-March, 1941	
	Pounds	Value	Pounds	Value	Pounds	Value	Pounds	Value
Meats, total.....	1,125,132	\$206,241	773,493	\$207,419	6,156,335	\$1,670,514	1,686,065	\$445,275
Beef, corned, et cetera.....	27,390	6,062	34,375	6,949	120,030	25,908	60,499	14,332
Other beef.....	19,626	4,460	20,575	8,021	294,529	92,565	52,338	17,892
Pork.....	642,856	185,565	333,411	106,835	4,538,535	1,263,373	782,640	245,426
Sausage.....	212,853	60,030	180,914	47,117	364,933	103,658	301,404	81,396
Other meat.....	222,407	40,094	204,218	38,497	838,308	185,010	483,154	86,229
Vegetables, total.....	15,885,189	797,970	3,808,022	276,707	47,333,765	2,444,116	9,147,074	703,513
Asparagus.....	432,936	65,319	128,739	22,329	1,573,036	231,530	573,822	92,747
Beans, baked and with pork.....	7,592,105	312,292	102,918	6,397	24,476,249	976,168	588,728	33,594
Corn.....	138,169	10,005	169,198	11,294	563,180	38,609	573,216	38,179
Peas.....	280,309	22,376	488,403	40,358	1,146,361	90,919	1,389,072	111,728
Soups.....	732,295	52,611	333,245	33,136	4,341,136	285,008	847,043	80,379
Tomatoes.....	4,439,812	196,393	1,639,668	80,460	7,695,560	350,113	2,037,055	105,381
Tomato paste and puree.....	1,493,859	76,504	375,850	25,818	4,920,628	275,926	1,049,043	70,518
Tomato juice.....	267,190	14,749	134,759	9,008	606,575	37,192	707,635	43,155
Other vegetables.....	508,514	47,721	435,242	47,907	2,010,040	158,651	1,291,460	127,832
Condensed milk.....	494,300	49,783	5,019,892	614,416	1,001,350	99,459	12,891,930	1,521,737
Evaporated milk.....	2,284,040	166,193	8,743,033	607,257	7,593,853	563,866	20,082,745	1,434,750
Fish:								
Salmon.....	1,000,461	161,450	561,825	109,815	10,538,698	1,934,722	12,506,909	2,022,932
Sardines.....	9,660,267	718,467	3,059,881	196,924	31,638,350	2,375,559	14,153,906	879,264
Other fish.....	435,510	38,312	186,908	21,915	1,279,109	122,572	1,579,851	141,803
Shellfish—								
Shrimp.....	192,090	28,121	77,406	15,367	735,280	119,206	352,491	56,035
Other shellfish.....	67,046	12,849	38,598	8,325	175,875	32,442	237,411	37,855
Fruits, total.....	24,897,078	1,784,489	1,353,205	114,830	87,065,761	6,251,758	3,500,434	303,948
Grapes.....			32,020	2,798			83,713	7,157
Grapefruit.....	6,570,151	413,785	103,362	6,596	32,581,994	2,061,358	247,273	14,656
Loganberries.....	93,270	7,884	4,376	498	173,331	13,785	10,692	994
Other berries.....	35,021	5,011	64,313	7,456	103,925	13,980	131,051	14,888
Apples and sauce.....	787,163	29,988	41,478	2,850	1,675,125	72,518	150,075	9,458
Apricots.....	1,373,484	100,962	37,562	3,529	4,721,192	337,188	104,341	10,621
Cherries.....	72,068	8,039	46,223	7,122	303,309	31,834	177,951	24,209
Prunes.....	1,360,917	77,512	34,992	2,725	1,705,321	102,980	93,506	7,048
Peaches.....	6,965,959	455,217	405,720	27,951	21,020,888	1,372,048	849,860	60,844
Pears.....	3,480,680	288,587	100,914	14,252	10,255,687	827,414	470,540	42,324
Pineapple.....	1,653,271	140,999	86,720	6,985	3,746,020	307,082	336,474	26,260
Fruit salad and cocktail.....	2,303,986	238,680	207,782	21,206	9,724,927	1,022,939	622,245	65,515
Other fruits.....	192,990	17,816	127,803	10,862	1,054,042	88,632	222,711	19,974
Fruit juices (in gallons):								
Pineapple.....	67,378	34,146	14,350	8,192	161,527	81,520	80,222	41,224
Grapefruit.....	402,499	126,364	420,821	123,687	1,040,000	338,249	1,467,545	408,913
Orange.....	21,552	12,905	14,727	11,510	82,559	48,466	53,911	32,392
Other fruit juices.....	39,585	33,194	41,041	34,805	114,696	87,473	127,175	104,529
IMPORTS								
Meat:								
Beef.....	4,781,782	577,166	5,925,392	639,836	19,750,784	2,277,689	17,529,837	1,898,650
Other meats.....	4,387	1,006	4,001	751	24,255	7,556	12,378	3,605
Milk: condensed and evaporated.....	544	60	151	15	1,006	99	596	57
Fish:								
Packed in oil—								
Sardines.....	1,215,688	185,226	1,032,105	199,847	4,123,124	632,188	2,446,756	480,293
Anchovies.....	125,625	38,451	251,798	72,802	484,435	172,866	614,613	190,506
Tuna.....	218,890	35,991	227,270	32,598	3,438,854	549,672	748,716	135,397
Other fish in oil.....	85,937	20,147	12,108	3,197	208,504	60,561	85,663	24,716
Other fish not in oil.....	623,188	74,135	288,932	44,232	2,827,378	312,563	705,836	99,092
Caviar and other roe.....	19,571	19,846	2,479	11,877	27,887	28,024	10,184	25,688
Shellfish—								
Crab meat and sauce.....	229,923	72,240	327,056	102,236	8,937,591	2,746,418	689,228	209,860
Clams and oysters.....	58,193	14,633	61,951	13,587	183,626	39,090	148,673	34,654
Lobsters.....	75,772	23,438	207,825	94,747	253,425	76,337	399,248	127,647
Other shellfish.....	1,070,569	95,819	2,141,031	91,851	4,115,604	268,843	3,793,501	231,669
Vegetables:								
Peas.....	2,996	188	140	24	59,424	4,128	184	28
Pimientos.....	14,900	2,486			23,000	3,523		
Mushrooms.....	42,597	10,328	2,258	676	243,866	32,399	13,598	3,998
Tomatoes.....	3,526,505	164,485	40,970	2,115	8,918,206	406,334	102,924	5,236
Tomato paste and sauce.....	962,394	67,732			2,168,743	182,273	6,000	789
Other vegetables.....	464,802	40,265	2,930	225	1,920,598	151,569	4,516	342
Fruit:								
Pineapple, dutiable.....	755,044	36,419	3,240,472	147,938	3,700,464	147,726	8,279,507	369,425
Pineapple, free (Philippines).....			2,568,288	115,189	5,355,454	240,825	2,568,288	115,189
Mandarin oranges.....			69,943	4,838				

PEA CROP CONDITION REPORT

Information for Week Ending May 1 Compiled by Division of Statistics

Continuing the service begun last year with the issue of the INFORMATION LETTER of April 20, 1940, the Association's Division of Statistics has gathered and summarized reports as to the condition of the pea crop in various sections of the country.

The reporting districts are the same as those of last year. The various pea-growing sections of the United States were divided last year into crop reporting districts. Within each district, soil types are fairly uniform and growing conditions are usually about the same. These crop reporting districts were outlined with the aid of pea canners and were shown on a map accompanying the issue of the LETTER for April 20, 1940. Additional copies of this map can be secured from the Association's Division of Statistics.

The summary of the reports for the week ending May 1 is as follows:

In most districts, peas were seeded much earlier than last year. Moisture conditions are favorable, but rain will be needed soon in Eastern and Western sections and in some parts of the Mid-West. Conditions are particularly favorable in Utah and Washington.

MAINE—Just beginning to plant peas. Soil in favorable condition, but rain needed.

NEW YORK II—No peas above ground, but weather is warm and dry.

NEW YORK III—Pea planting schedule ahead of last year. About 75 per cent planted. Planting conditions favorable except rain is needed.

NEW YORK IV—Planting about 40 per cent completed with ideal conditions. Will need rain within next few days.

MIDDLE ATLANTIC III—Planting finished a week ago. Alaskas showing 95 per cent stand while stand on Sweets is about 85 per cent of average. The fields are clean but dry. Rain is needed.

OHIO—Alaska planting completed, with Sweets well under way. Plenty of subsoil moisture with generally satisfactory conditions in the northeast. Rain needed badly in central and southern sections. Some peas up with about 90 per cent stand.

INDIANA—Peas are up with fairly good stands. Due to frosts and drought, growth has been very slow. Rain needed badly.

ILLINOIS—Season in north part of the State is about a week late on account of wet weather. Alaska planting well under way with some Sweets in the ground. First seeding just coming up with difficulty because ground was beaten down with hard rain.

MICHIGAN—Early peas all planted. About half of late peas seeded. Weather warm but rain needed.

WISCONSIN I—Stand on Alaskas about 90 per cent, with Sweets not yet out of the ground. Aphid infestation in alfalfa fields is worse than usual for this time of the season.

WISCONSIN II—Alaskas 75 to 80 per cent planted. Late Sweets from 25 to 50 per cent planted. Rainfall abundant in early spring but very little the last two weeks. Rain needed.

WISCONSIN III—About one-third of Alaskas planted. Just started on Sweets. There is too much moisture to make much

head way. Season exceptionally early which presents danger of frost. There are some aphid in the alfalfa.

WISCONSIN IV—Started planting Alaskas April 15. Expect to have most of Alaskas planted by May 5, if wet condition of ground will permit. Planting of Sweets just started. Aphid infestation in alfalfa. Check shows from two to fifteen per sweep. Alfalfa from 3 to 4 inches high.

WISCONSIN V—Weather and seeding conditions good with plenty of moisture. Rainfall has been above normal. No aphid infestation of alfalfa at present.

MINNESOTA—About 30 per cent planted. The season about a week to ten days late. Rainfall supply above normal.

IOWA—All peas are planted and the early planted fields are up to normal stand. Sufficient moisture for good growth at present but rains will be needed soon.

COLORADO—Planting finished. Alaskas and Perfections just beginning to show. Have had cool weather and excessive moisture.

UTAH—Plantings completed except in higher altitudes, thus stands are very excellent, with peas about 2 inches high. Rainfall has been heavy. Some peas light in color but no damage has been done as yet. Conditions generally are very favorable.

WYOMING—Planting about one-third completed. Earliest plantings just coming through. North will begin planting next week.

WASHINGTON-OREGON I—Seeding began in this district about March 15, a month earlier than last year. Practically all peas are now in the ground whereas peas were planted to May 25 last year, thus the season is from three weeks to a month earlier this year. Germination has been excellent. Stands about 100 per cent of average. General conditions more favorable than for several years.

PUGET SOUND—Early Sweets about all planted with first plantings showing about 100 per cent stand. Late Sweets about one-half in the ground. Temperature about normal. Rain will be needed soon.

Fruit and Vegetable Market Competition

Carlot shipments of domestic citrus fruits were the only item among fresh fruits and vegetables competing directly with canned foods that were larger during the week ending April 26, 1941, than during the comparable week of 1940, according to the Agricultural Marketing Service. Shipments of all other items were smaller than during the corresponding week of last year.

The following table, compiled from statistics of the Agricultural Marketing Service, gives detailed comparisons of carlot shipments on certain dates of selected vegetables and fruits:

	Week ending—			Season total to—	
	Apr. 26, 1940	Apr. 26, 1941	Apr. 19, 1941	Apr. 26, 1940	Apr. 26, 1941
VEGETABLES					
Beans, snap and lima...	177	155	45	2,427	2,517
Tomatoes.....	576	379	262	4,862	8,419
Green peas.....	174	132	204	1,662	1,553
Spinach.....	242	104	176	5,178	4,955
Others:					
Domestic, competing directly.....	2,086	1,766	1,412	50,413	47,342
Imports competing directly.....	27	14	13	2,573	2,416
Imports competing indirectly.....	66	47	27	602	1,077
FRUITS					
Citrus, domestic.....	3,710	3,820	3,624	113,794	114,985
Others, domestic.....	702	648	401	1,949	1,206

House Considers Broader Priorities Authority

At the request of the Office for Production Management, the House this week started on its way to enactment a bill to extend the power to establish priorities to contracts or orders made under the Lend-lease law, other contracts or orders deemed necessary for national defense, and such subcontracts or suborders. Under existing law, the power to establish priorities is limited to contracts or orders for the Army and Navy.

The purpose of the bill has been summarized by the Office for Production Management as follows:

1. To permit the assignment of mandatory priorities to contracts or orders of any foreign government which the President brings within the terms of the lease-lend bill.
2. To permit the assignment of mandatory priorities to any contract or order of a Government agency other than the Army or Navy or of private industry which is of vital importance to the defense program.
3. To make clear that mandatory priorities may be extended to subcontracts and suborders for parts, supplies, and materials which enter directly or indirectly into the fulfillment of the prime contracts which are subject to mandatory priorities.
4. To permit control of the distribution of those products and materials in which shortages appear by reason of the impact of the defense program and to permit the allocation of such products and materials to defense and to the most important civilian needs in preference to less important uses.
5. To permit adequate information to be obtained to operate the priorities system.
6. To protect persons complying with priority orders against liability for damages.

Companion bills to authorize the heads of the various government departments and agencies to enter into contracts without advertising or competitive bidding when it is in the interest of national defense have been introduced in the House and Senate. The bills also would authorize the President to give priority to deliveries under such contracts. The legislation has been requested by the Treasury Department.

March Canned Milk Production

Production during March, 1941, of evaporated milk (case goods), as estimated by the Agricultural Marketing Service at 203,624,000 pounds, was 2 per cent larger than the March production of last year and 27 per cent larger than the March 5-year (1935-39) average. March production was also 22 per cent larger than that of February of this year, compared with the February-March gain of 17 per cent last year. Estimated production for the first 3 months of 1941 is 542,279,000 pounds, a gain of 13,296,000 pounds, or 2 per cent over the production of the corresponding months last year.

Production of condensed milk (case goods) in March was estimated at 9,414,000 pounds, which is not only the largest production for March, but also the largest production for any month since 1931. Production was 171 per cent larger than that of March last year and 135 per cent larger than the March 1935-39 average. Production for the first 3 months of this year has exceeded that of a year earlier by 138 per cent.

During March, the Surplus Marketing Administration took delivery of 14,696,910 pounds of evaporated milk purchases that had been made in late February. Between April 1 and April 12, the Surplus Marketing Administration accepted offers for the sale of 3,262,500 pounds, and on April 23 called for additional offers to be submitted on April 29 and on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month until the end of June, 1941.

Food Technology Summer Course Announced

A summer course in food technology has been announced by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for the period June 30 to July 18, 1941. The course is under the direction of Bernard E. Proctor, Associate Professor of Food Technology at the Institute.

This short intensive course is intended particularly for persons having limited time for study who wish to increase their technical abilities. The fundamental material of the course will cover the origin, composition, transportation, handling, storage, processing, and control of the more important animal and plant foods.

Emphasis will be placed on the related chemical, biological, and engineering factors. This will embrace certain of the processes of the milling, baking, meat-packing, canning, dairy, fishery, refrigerator, and quick-freezing industries. Some of the food properties, such as vitamins, will be considered.

Publications on Pimientos

As a basis for economically producing and maintaining a soil fertility level conducive to higher pimiento yields, the Georgia Experiment Station has conducted a study to obtain information on the time the nutrients are taken up by the plants, as well as the quantities utilized. The results of this study are reported in Bulletin 208, a few copies of which the Raw Products Bureau has on hand to fill requests of members who desire them.

The effect of roasting and scalding pimiento fruits, in preparation for canning, on the subsequent low germination of the seeds is reported upon in the *Journal of Agriculture Research* for August 1, 1940, and the Raw Products has also obtained a few separates of this article for distribution to members upon request.

Boron Deficiency Symptoms in Beets for Canning

Leaf symptoms of boron deficiency of beets are described in a statement recently reprinted which appeared originally in the *Quarterly Bulletin* of the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station for May, 1940. These symptoms include the occurrence of twisted and non-symmetrical leaves, a deeper red color on the leaves, and a large number of small leaves. Some of the results of greenhouse and field experiments which were conducted by the Experiment Station to study the value of borax as a control for internal black breakdown of canning beets, associated with boron deficiency, are also discussed in this article.

Copies of the reprint of this article may be obtained upon request directed to the Association's Raw Products Bureau.

FEBRUARY SUGAR RECEIPTS

Increase 46.1 Per Cent Above Amount Released for Consumption During January

Sugar released for consumption in the United States during February, including quantities released from bonded warehouses, amounted to 46.1 per cent more than sugar receipts during January, according to Department of Commerce figures. February receipts totaled 936,241.037 pounds, as compared with 640,626,059 pounds during January.

The effect of the raising of the over-all quota for sugar imports for consumption, announced March 19, will not be noticeable until March receipts are announced. The quota was increased 235,072 short tons over the previous amount.

In the table below, compiled from the reports of the Department of Commerce are shown imports into the United States during February of raw and refined sugar, both dutiable and free:

Origin	Raw		Refined	
	Dutiable Pounds	Free Pounds	Dutiable Pounds	Free Pounds
Foreign countries:				
Mexico.....	4,309			
Cuba.....	309,417,984		45,360,000	1,700
Canada.....			74	
Haiti.....			509,700	50,200
Dominican Republic	6,115,200			
Netherlands Indies		300		6,302
Philippine Islands...	100,000	238,230,065	6,400,000	
Peru.....	6,171,934			
China.....	14,710			
Total.....	381,824,137	238,230,365	52,269,774	58,202
U. S. Territories:				
Hawaii.....		125,501,805		
Puerto Rico.....		87,426,064		50,930,000
Total receipts...	381,824,137	451,158,924	52,269,774	50,988,202

The following table, also based on Department of Commerce figures, shows the imports of sugar by ports of entry. These figures include imports for direct consumption and withdrawals from bonded warehouses within the United States:

Port of Entry	Raw		Refined	
	Dutiable Pounds	Free Pounds	Dutiable Pounds	Free Pounds
Massachusetts.....	50,508,410	28,144,454		
Vermont.....			74	
New York.....	90,742,936	99,388,396	14,759,700	50,200
Philadelphia.....	41,415,379	98,377,413		
Maryland.....		12,319,802	8,860,000	1,400
Virginia.....	164,884		4,500,000	
North Carolina.....	1,236,670		3,160,000	
South Carolina.....			3,000,000	
Georgia.....	7,796,994			
Florida.....	66,045		11,190,000	
New Orleans.....	174,820,926		400,000	
Galveston.....	8,952,874			300
Arizona.....	4,309			
Los Angeles.....	100,000		6,400,000	
San Francisco.....	7,860	300		6,302
Hawaii.....	6,850			
Total.....	381,824,137	238,230,365	52,269,774	58,202

Forecasts of Sweet Corn Wilt Discontinued

Announcement was recently made by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, in the *Plant Disease Reporter* for April 1, 1941, that the experimental forecasts of the probable incidence of bacterial wilt of sweet corn in the eastern United States will now be discontinued. This decision has been

reached because the correlation between these forecasts based on study of winter temperatures, and outbreaks of the disease have continued to be so close that such general forecasts can have little further interest unless or until some wholly exceptional season occurs. Moreover, pathologists in the States most interested are regularly making local forecasts for the growers in their own States.

Marketing Control of Prunes for Canning Proposed

A proposal to place prunes for canning that are produced in Oregon and Washington under the imposed control provisions of the Agricultural Marketing Agreements Act of 1937 has been introduced in the Senate by Senator McNary. The bill (S. 1354) would add "prunes for canning produced in the States of Oregon and Washington west of the Cascade Mountains" as a commodity subject to the order sections of the Act. They would thus be in the same category as olives for canning and asparagus for canning, the only canned products now subject to the orders section.

Cotton Insurance Recommended by Agriculture

The Department of Agriculture has given its approval to legislation to include cotton as a commodity that may be insured under the Federal Crop Insurance Act and the Senate Agriculture Committee this week reported favorably such a bill. In approving the bill (S. 158) the Department reported to the Senate Committee that data necessary to include cotton in the insurance program have now been assembled but that "at the present time, the Department does not feel that it is in possession of sufficient data to justify recommending the extension of crop insurance to any crops other than wheat and cotton."

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